

99

Dr. A. Francis
Physician and Surgeon

New Denver, B. C., April 20, 1944.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPT.
RECEIVED
APR 24 1944
FILE No. C81-4

The Department of Attorney-General,
Victoria, B. C.

Dear Sir: Re: Inquest on Charles M. Murray

I am enclosing herewith an inquisition concerning the death of the above mentioned. I wish to draw your attention to the recommendation made by the Jury and ask that your Department will be good enough to draw to the attention of the B. C. Security Commission this recommendation. A valued employee of the C. P. R. came to his death in the performance of his duties and the Jury felt that everything should be done to see that this was not repeated.
I am,

Yours truly,

A. Francis

AF:AH

Dr. A. Francis.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPT.
RECEIVED
APR 24 1944
FILE No.

100
C-81-4

C-81-4

New Denver

April 25th 1944.

B. C. Security Commission,
360 Homer Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sirs:-

Re Inquest on Charles M. Murray, Decd.

An inquest was held on the abovenamed by the local Coroner Dr. A. Francis at New Denver, B.C., on April 19th 1944, and the jury after hearing the evidence brought in the following verdict:-

"We, the jury, are unanimous that Charles M. Murray, an employee of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, was injured at 6.25 p.m. April 18 1944 at Hunter's Siding while spotting two cars by being crushed between a car and a pile of cord wood. We believe this injury was the cause of his death in the Slocan Community Hospital at about 8.10 p.m. April 18 1944. We would recommend that in future strict supervision be given to the piling of cord wood on the track according to regulations as laid down; and that when cord wood is piled an occidental should be in charge and supervise same. We, the jury, wish to tender our sincere sympathy to the family of the deceased."

It appears from the evidence that the deceased, a C.P.R. train conductor, was crushed between the freight train of which he was in charge and a woodpile standing alongside the track, there not being sufficient room between the ends of the woodpile and the passing railway cars. It also appears that the woodpile consisted of cordwood piled by Japanese under the supervision of the B.C. Security Commission. Mr. William Baird, Superintendent Fuel and Wood, B.C. Security Commission, gave evidence at the inquest, and is no doubt familiar with the matter.

The Coroner, in his covering report, asked that the recommendation of the jury be brought to the attention of your Commission as a valued employee of the C.P.R. came to his death

B.C. Security Commission.

101
- 2 -

in the performance of his duties, and the jury felt that everything should be done to see that this was not repeated. If you require a copy of the inquest kindly advise, and we will have a copy forwarded you.

I have the honour to be,
Sirs,
Your obedient servant,

Deputy Attorney-General.



102

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION

April 27th, 1944.

Attorney-General,
Province of British Columbia,
VICTORIA, B.C.

Your File # C-81-4

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPT.

RECEIVED

APR 28 1944

File No. C 81-4

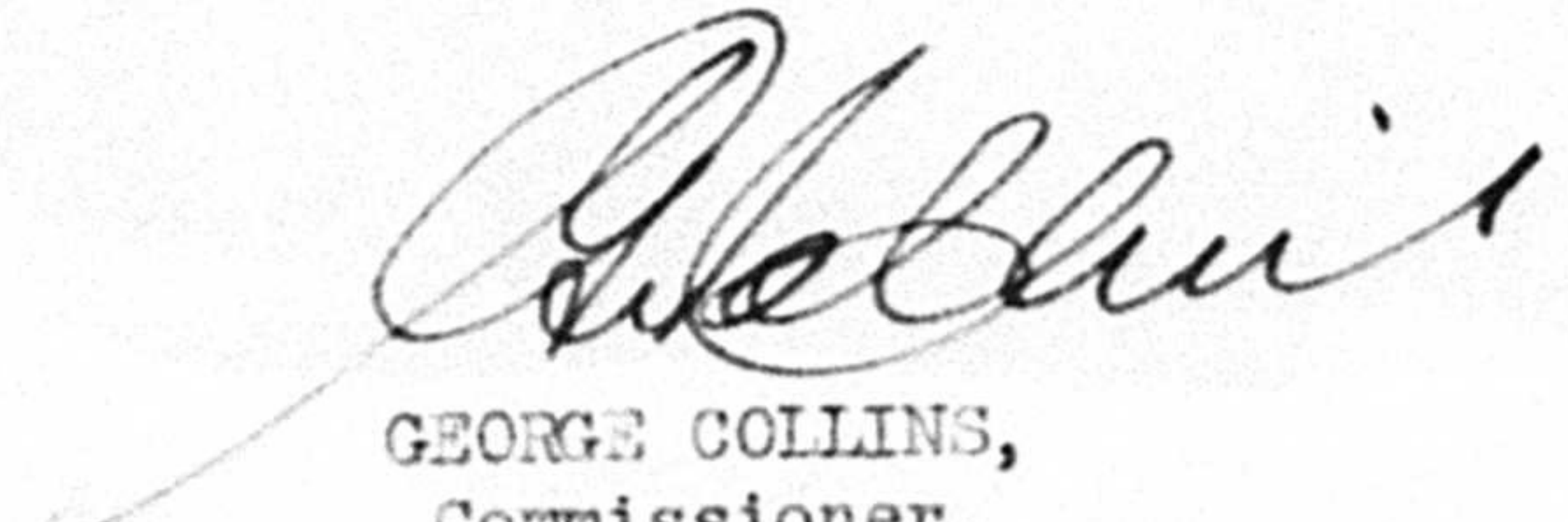
Dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 25th instant concerning the Inquest on Charles M. Murray, Deceased, for which I thank you.

Copy of the Inquest Proceedings has already been forwarded to this office by the Coroner.

The recommendation of the Jury has been noted by members of this Commission and proper steps are being taken to prevent a repetition of this very regrettable accident.

Yours very truly,


GEORGE COLLINS,
Commissioner.

file

GC/DS

BOARD OF TRANSPORT COMMISSIONERS FOR CANADA

P. F. BAILLARGEON
SECRETARY

N. BRUCE LYON
ASST. SECRETARY



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

L/EM:

OTTAWA,

June 29th, 1944.

ATTENTION: DEPT.

RECEIVED

JUL 5 1944

C 81-4

Dear Sir,-

File 44102 - accident at Hunter's
Siding, mileage 42.6, Kaslo Subd.,
C.P.R., April 18th, 1944.

The above accident has been investigated by the Board's Operating Department and it will be noted that the Coroner's Jury which was convened following the accident returned a verdict containing the recommendation as follows:-

"We would recommend that in future strict supervision be given to the piling of cordwood on the track according to regulations as laid down, and that when cordwood is piled an accidental should be in charge to supervise same."

This accident occurred when Conductor C. M. Murray was caught and crushed between leading car of switching movement and cordwood piled alongside the track. The Board has now instructed me to advise that several attempts on the part of railway officials to have this wood piled at a safe distance from the track met with no response.

Would you kindly take this matter up with the Officers of the British Columbia Security Commission with a view to having the stacks of wood piled at a

106

- 2 -

safe distance from the track in order to avoid other accidents in the future.

Yours truly,

P. F. Baillargeon

Secretary, B.T.C.
P. F. Baillargeon.

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C.,
Attorney General, British Columbia,
Victoria, B.C.

107
C 81-4 New Denver.

July 6, 1944.

P.F. Baillargeon, Esq.,
Secy., Board of Transport Commissioners,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Sir:

Your File 44102 - accident at
Hunter's Siding, mileage 42.6,
Kaslo Subd., C.P.R., April 18th, 1944.

Your communication of the 29th ultimo received in connection with this accident, requesting the Attorney-General to take this matter up with the officers of the British Columbia Security Commission with a view to having the stacks of wood piled at a safe distance from the track in order to avoid other accidents in the future.

In reply I may say that on April 25th I wrote the B.C. Security Commission to this effect and received a reply dated April 27th advising that the recommendation of the jury has been noted by members of the Commission and that proper steps were being taken to prevent a repetition of this very regrettable accident.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Deputy Attorney-General.

FILE NO. C 81-3 *124*

MEMORANDUM

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S OFFICE

TO Dr. A. Francis,

Coroner,

VICTORIA May 3rd, 1945.

New Denver, B. C.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPT.
RECEIVED
 MAY 14 1945

re: Charles M. Murray, dec'd.

FILE NO. _____

Kindly let us have a report in this matter as soon as possible.

B. S. R. H.

Chief Clerk and Accountant.

I am at loss to understand what is meant by this memorandum. Complete inquest proceedings were forwarded to your office about April 20, 1944. A copy is on file in my office. The local office for registration of B.D. & M's inform me that this death certificate was received April 27, 1944 # 455 and that death occurred April 18, 1944. Complete Inquisition form was sent your office prior to this date.

*104
404*

A. Francis
 Coroner

125

May 14, 1945.

Dr. A. Francis,
Coroner,
New Denver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

Kindly accept our apologies for our letter requesting report on the death of Charles M. Murray. A report was requested from us and when looking up the records notice was not taken that it was April 20, 1944.

Thanks very much.

Yours truly,

Chief Clerk and Accountant.